

### **Remarks**

The Applicants have cancelled Claims 24-46 and substituted new Claims 47-58. Support for the new claims may be found in the attached Table 1. Table 1 provides precise locations within the Specification for such support. It also refers to all of Figs. 1-7 and the originally-filed claims. Collectively, the Applicants respectfully submit that this disclosure provides ample support for new Claims 47-58. Entry into the official file is respectfully requested.

The Applicants acknowledge the Restriction Requirement with respect to dividing original Claims 1-23 into Group I including Claims 1-11 and Group II including Claims 12-23. The Applicants respectfully submit that the restriction is moot in view of the cancellation of Claims 1-23 in the Preliminary Amendment filed June 26, 2007. However, the Applicants respectfully submit that this Response nonetheless addresses that restriction inasmuch as new Claims 47-58 are drawn to a process and not to a process and an apparatus as in original Claims 1-23. Thus, the Applicants respectfully submit that no Restriction Requirement is necessary for the newly-submitted Claims 47-58.

Examination of new Claims 47-58 on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



T. Daniel Christenbury  
Reg. No. 31,750  
Attorney for Applicants

TDC/vp  
(215) 656-3381

Table 1			
<p><b>Amended claim 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Method for detecting the formation and development of a biofilm of a microorganism on a surface in a liquid culture medium (4), which method includes the following series of steps:</li> </ul>	<p><b>Description as originally filed, in particular:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Page 8, lines 6 to 14 and 21 to 24 and 28 to 31 (method of the invention)</li> <li>- Page 1, lines 17 to 28 (the term "viscosity" is clearly defined here by "restriction of the movement of one or more particle(s) by a biofilm")</li> <li>- Page 2, line 27 to page 4, line 7 (in which the term "biofilm" is explicitly defined and described as being developed on a surface and in a liquid culture medium)</li> <li>- Page 12, lines 3 to 7 (culture reactor)</li> <li>- Page 15, line 20 to page 16, line 29 (method of the invention)</li> <li>- page 17, lines 17 to 23 (particle resting at the bottom of the reactor or floating at the surface of the medium)</li> <li>- pages 18 to 24 (examples)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Figures 1 to 7</b></p>	<p><b>Claims originally filed 10 and 20</b></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- step (a)</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- steps (b) and (c)</li> </ul>		